

A More Sure Word of Prophecy

Introduction:

- A. Text: 2 Pt. 1:2-21
 - 1. Nostradamus, was a French astrologer and reputed seer, who is best known for his book that was a collection of 942 prophecies allegedly predicting future events. The book was first published in 1555 and has rarely been out of print since his death.
 - a. wrote almanac in 1550 and, as a result of its success, continued writing them for future years as he began working as an astrologer for various wealthy patrons and and adviser to French royalty
 - b. supposedly predicted WW I; WW II; Napoleon, Kennedy
 - c. people still follow psychics - Nancy Reagan
 - 2. we refuse to trust- yet we still believe on prophecy
- B. We must be ready to defend our faith in the Bible.
 - 1. First Peter 3: 15 ready to defend
 - a. do you have such hope? If so why do you believe?
 - b. We offer a legal defense for the validity of the Bible.
 - c. One such evidence is the ability of God to tell the future Isaiah 46:9-11
 - d. Jesus claimed to be fulfillment of prophecy Luke 24:44-49
 - 2. We must use what God has supplied to defend our faith.
 - 3. Today look at 2 Peter 1:2-21

I. A Few Observations: Things to Appreciate

- A. Great promises (vs. 1-4)
 - 1. He starts with “grace and peace“ (vs.2)
 - a. this is not just a greeting but because we have a Lord of grace and peace.
 - b. must grow (2 Pt. 3:18)
 - 2. He has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness (vs. 3)
 - a. if you didn’t know about the Bible what would you know about God and eternal life?
 - b. how would you know that he has a given us grace and peace?
 - 3. and by these he has given us great and precious promises (vs.4)
 - a. forgiveness, God’s faithfulness, eternal life
 - b. can you prove that? How do you know you’re a child of God?
 - c. Simple we know because of the Bible
- B. Practical applications (vs. 5-11)
 - 1. For this reason he tells them to grow up and to be diligent!
 - 2. They are to work at it!
- C. Proof (vs. 12-15)
 - 1. Peter is about to die (vs. 13, 14)
 - 2. he wants to remind them (vs. 13, 15)
 - 2. He reminds his readers of what he saw and did.
- D. Trustworthy (vs.16 -18)

1. The facts about Jesus are verified by eyewitnesses like Luke source
 - a. Matthew 17:1–13 I would this is saw him in all of his divine glory! (Vs.17)
 - b. They heard a voice from heaven (vs. 18,19)
 - c. “Confirmed“: ESV :“more fully confirmed“ i
 - d. NASB: “word made more sure“
 - d. NIV: “word completely reliable“
 - e. NLT “confidence in the message and profits“
2. All that the Messiah claim to be in do we saw at all we heard him resize miracles all is confirmed
3. a “more sure word“ the point is we have something even better than eyewitness testimony

- C. What are we to do with the sure word of prophecy?
1. we must heed (vs.19);
 2. you can’t do just what you want with it (vs.20)
 3. because it was given to us by God! (Vs.21)
 4. three points: God gave us evidence, so

II. First, Grace and Peace Must be Multiplied

- A. First, What has God done for you? (Vs. 2)
1. God’s favor must increase more and more for this is the purpose of fulfilled prophecy
 - a. Genesis 12:1-2; Daniel 2:44; Isaiah 11:1-4
 - b. Why? So that we can say wow! My grace is multiplied!
 - c. God is proving this to us!
- B. God has gone to great links to prove his word!
1. he thought that much of us
 2. He wants me to know his magnificent grace – he loves me!

III. Second: His Great and Precious Promises are Reliable

- A. The reliability of his promises
1. hundreds of years before God made promises and they happen?!
 2. look at his track record!
- B. thus, fulfilled prophecy makes it all believable!

IV. Third, He Offers Evidence Beyond Question

- A. Look at Isaiah 41:21
1. In Isaiah’s day Israel was given to idolatry and Baal worship
 - a. she was led by evil kings
 - b. led away from God
 2. therefore, Isaiah spoke of two things first, God’s power; second, God’s ability to fulfill prophecy.
- B. Isaiah 41:21-24
1. Isaiah 44:6–8: who can predict?
 - a. Cyrus (vs. 24-28)
 - b. Isaiah 45:11–13, 20, 21

2. what does God do to prove he is speaking?
 - a. he fulfills prophecy
 - b. who else can do that?
 - c. the Gospel writers speak often of fulfilled prophecy: 70 major ones according to Josh McDowell
3. Isaiah 52:13-53:12
 - a. Moreover Paul, Peter, Matthew, Luke and John—the major contributors to the New Testament—together allude to at least eight of the chapter’s twelve verses.
 - b. What was the origin of their confident, detailed application of Isaiah 53 to Jesus?”
 - c. Lk. 22:37: *“For I say to you that this which is written must still be accomplished in Me: And He was numbered with the transgressors.’ For the things concerning Me have an end.”*
3. Matthew 26:52-56 that Scripture of the prophets might be fulfilled

Conclusion:

- A. Why do you believe?
 1. look at prophecy!
 - a. some doubt the date of Isaiah
 - b. but the Septuagint version was given 300 years before Jesus
 - b. look at Isaiah 53 and the specific prophecies that were fulfilled in Christ: see John Stott
 2. Jesus is like a light shining in a dark place!
- B. We follow Jesus! We will enjoy his grace and peace!